

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Senator Kennedy, Chairman; Senators Dodd, Harkin, Mikulski, Jeffords, Bingaman, Wellstone, Murray, Reed, Edwards, and Clinton.

JUDICIARY

Senator Leahy, Chairman; Senators Kennedy, Biden, Kohl, Feinstein, Feingold, Schumer, Durbin, Cantwell, and Edwards.

BUDGET

Senator Conrad, Chairman; Senators Hollings, Sarbanes, Murray, Wyden, Feingold, Johnson, Byrd, Bill Nelson, Stabenow, Clinton, and Corzine.

RULES

Senator Dodd, Chairman; Senators Byrd, Inouye, Feinstein, Torricelli, Schumer, Breaux, Daschle, Dayton, and Durbin.

SMALL BUSINESS

Senator Kerry, Chairman; Senators Levin, Harkin, Lieberman, Wellstone, Cleland, Landrieu, Edwards, Cantwell, and Carnahan.

VETERANS

Senator Rockefeller, Chairman; Senators Graham, Jeffords, Akaka, Wellstone, Murray, Miller, and Ben Nelson.

INTELLIGENCE

Senator Graham, Chairman; Senators Levin, Rockefeller, Feinstein, Wyden, Durbin, Bayh, Edwards, and Mikulski.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Senator Breaux, Chairman; Senators Reid, Kohl, Jeffords, Feingold, Wyden, Lincoln, Bayh, Carper, Stabenow, and Carnahan.

JOINT ECONOMIC

Senators Reed, Kennedy, Sarbanes, Bingaman, Corzine, and Torricelli—subject to statutory change.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Inouye, Chairman; Senators Conrad, Reid, Akaka, Wellstone, Dorgan, Johnson, and Cantwell.

ETHICS

Senator Reid, Chairman; Senators Akaka, and Lincoln.

Mr. LOTT. On behalf of the Republican members of the Senate, I submit the following committee assignments for the Republican party and ask unanimous consent they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

Senators Lugar, Helms, Cochran, McConnell, Roberts, Fitzgerald, Thomas, Allard, Hutchinson (AR), and Crapo.

APPROPRIATIONS

Senators Stevens, Cochran, Specter, Domenici, Bond, McConnell, Burns, Shelby, Gregg, Bennett, Campbell, Craig, Hutchinson (TX) and DeWine.

ARMED SERVICES

Senators Warner, Thurmond, McCain, Smith (NH), Inhofe, Santorum, Roberts, Allard, Hutchinson (AR), Sessions, Collins, and Bunning.

BANKING

Senators Gramm, Shelby, Bennett, Allard, Enzi, Hagel, Santorum, Bunning, Crapo, and Ensign.

BUDGET

Senators Domenici, Grassley, Nickles, Gramm, Bond, Gregg, Snowe, Frist, Smith (OR), Allard, and Hagel.

COMMERCE

Senators McCain, Stevens, Burns, Lott, Hutchison (TX), Snowe, Brownback, Smith (OR), Fitzgerald, Ensign, and Allen.

ENERGY

Senators Murkowski, Domenici, Nickles, Craig, Campbell, Thomas, Shelby, Burns, Kyl, Hagel, and Smith (OR).

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Senators Smith (NH), Warner, Inhofe, Bond, Voinovich, Crapo, Chafee, Specter, and Campbell.

FINANCE

Senators Grassley, Hatch, Murkowski, Nickles, Gramm, Lott, Thompson, Snowe, Kyl, and Thomas.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Senators Helms, Lugar, Hagel, Smith (OR), Frist, Chafee, Allen, Brownback, and Enzi.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Senators Thompson, Stevens, Collins, Voinovich, Domenici, Cochran, Bennett, and Fitzgerald.

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Senators Gregg, Frist, Enzi, Hutchinson (AR), Warner, Bond, Roberts, Collins, Sessions, and DeWine.

JUDICIARY

Senators Hatch, Thurmond, Grassley, Specter, Kyl, DeWine, Sessions, Brownback, and McConnell.

RULES

Senators McConnell, Warner, Helms, Stevens, Cochran, Santorum, Nickles, Lott, and Hutchison (TX).

SMALL BUSINESS

Senators Bond, Burns, Bennett, Snowe, Enzi, Fitzgerald, Crapo, Allen, and Ensign.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Senators Campbell, Murkowski, McCain, Domenici, Thomas, Hatch, and Inhofe.

ETHICS

Senators Roberts, Voinovich, and Thomas.

INTELLIGENCE

Senators Shelby, Kyl, Inhofe, Hatch, Roberts, DeWine, Thompson, and Lugar.

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, on Friday, June 29, I was necessarily absent because I was needed in New Mexico. Anyone who is familiar to New Mexico knows that water is a matter of life and future for us. On this day, the Department of interior, the Attorney General for the State of New Mexico, the State Engineer, the Interstate Stream Commission, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and the city of Albuquerque all reached a 3-year agreement regarding one of the endangered species, the Silvery Minnow on the Rio Grande River.

There are many parties interested in the needs and recovery of the minnow and many groups have been working on river and riparian ecosystem restoration efforts upstream. The settlement proposal mentions that naturalized refuges are a necessary component of saving the silvery minnow and I remain committed to helping make that happen over the next three years.

This agreement temporarily solves one of the most difficult to solve water problems on the Rio Grande. I can't think of an issue that affects more New Mexicans, for this reason I decided that it was essential that I be in New Mexico and therefore, necessarily absent.

I would have voted for the First substitute version of the Patients Bill of Rights had I been in Washington.

ON THE FAIRNESS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, "The system may well be allowing some innocent defendants to be executed."

Were these the words of Governor George Ryan, the Illinois Governor who placed a moratorium on executions last year? They could have been, but they were not. Were these the words of an attorney defending someone facing the death penalty? They could have been, but they were not. Rather, these were the remarkable words of Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor—the same Justice O'Connor who has generally supported the death penalty during her twenty years on the Court, the same Justice O'Connor who has championed states' rights, including the right to carry out executions, the same Justice O'Connor who joined or wrote key opinions that made it more difficult for defendants facing the death penalty to have their state sentences overturned in federal court, and the same Justice O'Connor who voted in favor of allowing executions of teenage children who committed crimes at age 16 or 17.

Justice O'Connor said, "After 20 years on the high court, I have to acknowledge that serious questions are being raised about whether the death penalty is being fairly administered in this country." She uttered these words at a meeting before the Minnesota Women Lawyers in Minneapolis last Monday. Coincidentally, Justice O'Connor made these remarks on the 25th anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1976 *Gregg v. Georgia* decision, which reinstated the death penalty as we know it today. Only four years earlier, in 1972, the Court had found the death penalty unconstitutional. But in *Gregg*, the Court found that sufficient safeguards had been implemented to allow states to resume use of the death penalty.

Since the *Gregg* decision, over 700 people have been executed in the United States and today over 3,700 people sit on death row awaiting execution. Since the *Gregg* decision, the rate of executions have increased: from one execution in 1981 to 98 executions in 1999, 85 in 2000, and 39 so far this year.

Justice O'Connor also said, "Unfortunately, as the rate of executions have increased, problems in the way which the death penalty has been administered have become more apparent."